

# Local Government Records

## **Anderson**

### **Norris City Archives: Ellalyn Crossnoe, City Archivist**

PO Drawer G, Norris, TN 37828    phone: 865-494-7478

**Holdings:** The city does not regularly schedule a transfer of records to the archives. In fact, the archives holds very few early records of the city. Most of these early records pertain to the purchase of the city from the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority). Several years of the city minutes are contained in the collection. The bulk of the collection is comprised of various materials relating to TVA including photographs, books (about TVA and the establishment of Norris), and architectural plans of Norris houses. Records of several local churches and various social groups, including women's clubs, the Girl Scouts, and the Boy Scouts are housed in the archives.

**Conditions:** The Archives is housed along with the public library and museum in one building. The city of Norris is the main funding source for the archives. The Norris Historical Society also provides funding and support. The archives is open to the public Sundays and Tuesdays from 2-4 pm (EST), or by appointment.

### **Anderson County Archives: Mary Harris, Historian**

100 N. Main St., Rm. 204, Clinton, TN 37716    phone: 865-457-6242

**Holdings:** Anderson County records: 1802 to present (deeds), 1838- (marriage bonds, licenses, applications), 1830-present (probate records, wills, estate settlements), 1836-1991 (Chancery Court loose records), 1868 (Circuit Court records), 1886-1990 (tax records).

**Conditions:** Records are kept in a well-organized, though crowded, room in the courthouse. Reference service provided during regular business hours and by mail. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Bedford**

### **Bedford County Archives: Helen Marsh, Archivist**

Courthouse, #1 Public Sq., Shelbyville, TN 37160    phone: 931-684-7944

**Holdings:** Bedford County records 1807-1900 including bound records from Circuit and Chancery courts and the Register of Deeds' office. Loose wills and marriage records also available.

**Conditions:** The Bedford County Archives occupies a small room in the courthouse. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Benton**

### **Benton County Archives: Faye Cain, Archivist**

121 S. Forrest Ave., Camden, TN 38320    phone: 731-584-0778

**Holdings:** Benton County Chancery Court records, 1820-1950, Criminal Court records, 1830-1950.

There are approximately 450 cubic feet of unprocessed records from various dates and offices (dates span from 1820-2000).

**Conditions:** The Benton County Archives is located in the basement of the Benton County Public Library. The facility was designed specifically for the archives. The Archives has a good staff of volunteers who are working on processing and preserving the county's loose records. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Bledsoe**

### **Bledsoe County Public Library: Carolyn Knight, Librarian/Archivist**

PO Box 465, Pikeville, TN 37367    phone: 423-447-2817

**Holdings:** Bledsoe County loose Chancery Court records (1840-1940).

**Conditions:** The Bledsoe County Archives is presently integrated under the control of the public library. The bulk of the records of the county, in addition to those at the library, are stored in an off site building (old high school building). The county has an active public records commission.

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## **Blount**

### **City of Maryville Archives: Deborah Caughron, City Recorder**

301 McGhee Street, Maryville, TN 37801    phone: 865-981-1343

Holdings: Records, both temporary and permanent, for the city of Maryville. Date of holdings unknown.

Conditions: The present location for the City of Maryville Archives is a temporary one. The older records of the city are held in storage in the basement of the public library. The McGhee Street location houses the more contemporary city records. The archives is the official repository for Maryville city records. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 am- 5 pm (EST).

### **Blount County Records Management: Jackie Glenn, Certified Archives Manager/Records Manager**

337 Court St., Courthouse, Maryville, TN 37804    phone: 865-273-5796

Holdings: Blount County records 1795-2000 from most of the major county offices. Marriage licenses range in date from 1795 to 2000. Court records overall are intact and fairly complete.

Conditions: The Blount County Records Management Department is the official repository for the county's records. It serves as both a records center and an archive. The department is located in several offices of the lower floor of the courthouse. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Bradley**

### **Cleveland History Branch: Barbara Fagen, Librarian/Certified Archives Manager**

833 N. Ocoee St., Cleveland, TN 37311    phone: 423-479-8367

Holdings: Bradley County records 1836-1985, including: loose Chancery Court records, loose Circuit Court records, docket and minute books, tax records, jury lists, and other miscellaneous records.

Conditions: The Cleveland History Branch is a part of (and across the street from) the Bradley County Public Library. The History Branch houses photographs, maps, microfilmed county records, and manuscript collections. The county has an active public records commission.

### **Bradley County Archives and Records Center: Amy Hindman, Archivist/Records Manager**

PO Box 1167, Cleveland, TN 37364    phone: 423-476-0612

Holdings: Although the Bradley County records center holds some bound volumes as early as the 1840s, the bulk of their records date from the 20th century. Total volume is approximately 19,000 cubic feet. Most genealogical and historical inquiries should be directed to the History Branch of the Cleveland Public Library.

Conditions: The Bradley County Archives and Records Center is the official repository for the county's more recent records. The facility is housed in several rooms in the parking structure of the county courthouse. The Archivist/Records Manager is a full-time, paid county employee. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Campbell**

### **Campbell County Mayor: Jerry E. Cross, County Mayor**

PO Box 435, Jacksboro, TN 37757    phone: 423-562-2526

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Campbell County does not have a records management or archives program. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Cannon**

### **Cannon County Public Library: Kathryn Bensinger, Librarian**

212 College St., Woodbury, TN 37190    phone: 615-563-5861

Holdings: The library has a genealogical research room with print materials and the microfilmed county records, newspapers, and census.

Conditions: Cannon County records are stored in poor conditions in the courthouse. The records are not easily accessible to the public. The county does not have an active public records commission.

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## **Carroll**

### **Gordon Browning Museum: Jere Cox, Archivist**

640 N. Main St., McKenzie, TN 37201    phone: 731-352-3456

Holdings: Carroll County records 1932 to present, including loose records from Chancery and Circuit Courts. Early wills and marriage records.

Conditions: A courthouse fire in 1931 destroyed wills prior to 1865 and Circuit Court records prior to 1931. The Gordon Browning Museum serves as the official repository for the county's older records. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Carter**

### **Carter County Register of Deeds: Johnny Holder, Register**

801 Elk Ave, Courthouse, Elizabethton, TN 37643    phone: 423-542-1830

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Carter County does not have records management or archives programs. Records are stored in individual offices and in storage areas in the courthouse. The conditions of the older records in storage are not conducive to public inspection. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Cheatham**

### **Cheatham County Public Records Commission: Brenda Montgomery, County Commissioner**

1295 Justice Road, Ashland City, TN 37015    phone: 615-307-2312

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: The newly established (Fall 2003) Cheatham County public records commission is working with the county commission and historical society to address problems of records storage and access. The county has discussed the possibility of incorporating a county archives into the county public library building. Presently, the records are stored in various locations in the county and are not uniformly available for public access.

## **Chester**

### **Chester County Mayor: Troy Kilzer, County Mayor**

PO Box 296, Henderson, TN 38340    phone: 731-989-5672

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Chester County does not have a records management or archives program. Records are still held by each individual office. Storage conditions are unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Claiborne**

### **Claiborne County Mayor: Virgil Herrell, County Mayor**

PO Box 318, New Tazewell, TN 37879    phone: 423-626-52360

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Claiborne County does not have a records management or archives program. Records are stored in the basement and in an off-site storage facility. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Clay**

### **Clay County Mayor: Luke Collins, County Mayor**

PO Box 387, Celina, TN 38551    phone: 931-243-2161

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Clay County does not have a records management or archives program. Many early court records have been lost; surviving records are stored in the courthouse. The storage conditions are not conducive to long-term preservation or public access. The county does not have an active public records commission.

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## **Cocke**

### **Cocke County Archives: Wilda Parrott, Archivist**

360 East Main St., Newport, TN 37821    phone: 423-625-8383

Holdings: Cocke County records 1876-2002, including unprocessed loose records from various offices, deed books, bound volumes from Chancery and County Courts.

Conditions: The Cocke County Archives is located in the basement of the courthouse annex. While the county archivist and her assistant have made considerable progress (particularly given their limited resources), the space is inadequate in both size and structure. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Coffee**

### **Coffee County Archives: Betty Majors, Genealogist**

111 Oak Park Dr., Tullahoma, TN 37355    phone: 931-455-4098

Holdings: The originals of early bound and processed loose court records, 1836-1950, are held in the archives, as are the microfilmed county records.

Conditions: The Coffee County Archives is staffed by volunteers one day a week and by appointment. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Crockett**

### **Crockett County Mayor: Larry Griffin, County Mayor**

1 S. Bells St., Ste. 3, Alamo, TN 38001    phone: 731-696-5460

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Crockett County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Cumberland**

### **Cumberland County Mayor: Brock Hill, County Mayor**

2 North Main Street, Ste. 203, Crossville, TN 38555    phone: 931-484-6165

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: An unknown number of records prior to 1976 were "carried to the dump" by the county. The surviving records are kept by the officials in their respective offices and in various storage areas. Storage conditions are not conducive to long-term preservation or public access. The county recently purchased a former church near the courthouse and is renovating it for use as an archives and records center. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Davidson**

### **Metropolitan Archives of Davidson County: Ken Fieth, Archivist**

3801 Green Hills Village Dr., Nashville, TN 37215    phone: 615-862-5880

Holdings: Davidson County records 1784-1989. The archives is the official repository for the county's records. The archives also collects photographs, manuscripts, and other materials relating to the history of Nashville and/or Davidson County. Included in the collection is the complete photograph collection from the now defunct daily newspaper, the Nashville Banner.

Conditions: The Metropolitan Archives is located in a former public library branch building. The archives was established as an office in 1983. The archives is under the management control of the Metro Nashville/Davidson County Public Library system. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Decatur**

### **Decatur County Mayor: Kenneth Broadway, County Mayor**

PO Box 488, Decaturville, TN 38329    phone: 731-852-2131

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Decatur County does not have a records management or archive program. Condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **DeKalb**

### **DeKalb County Mayor: Mike Foster, County Mayor**

#1 Public Square, Room 204 Courthouse, Smithville, TN 37165    phone: 615-597-5175

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: DeKalb County does not have a records management or archives program. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

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## **Dickson**

### **Dickson County Archives: Linda Parker, Archivist**

PO Box 267, Charlotte, TN 37036    phone: 615-789-7012

Holdings: Dickson County records 1804-2000. Records include: marriages and wills, loose and bound records of the Chancery, Circuit, and County courts; records from the Register of Deeds' office; and records from the Trustee's office.

Conditions: The Dickson County Archives was established in 2000. The facility is located in a renovated parking structure in the courthouse annex and is open to the public during regular business hours. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Dyer**

### **Dyer County Mayor: Richard Hill, County Mayor**

PO Box 1360, Dyersburg, TN 38024    phone: 731-286-7800

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Dyer County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Fayette**

### **Fayette County Mayor: Rhea Taylor, County Mayor**

PO Box 218, Somerville, TN 38068    phone: 901-465-5202

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Fayette County does not have records management or archives programs. Many of the county's older bound volumes and boxed loose records are piled in a locked basement room of the courthouse. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Fentress**

### **Fentress County Mayor: John B. Mullinix, County Mayor**

PO Box 1128, Jamestown, TN 38556    phone: 931-879-7713

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Fentress County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Franklin**

### **Franklin County Project Preservation: Jeanne Bigger, Archivist**

304 1st Ave., NW, Winchester, TN 37398    phone: 931-962-1474

Holdings: Franklin County records 1811-1930's. Chancery and Circuit Court case files have been combined, indexed and microfilmed. Early marriage books and wills are available.

Conditions: The Franklin County Archives was established in 1979 and keeps regular hours. There is a separate records center in the courthouse for more recent bound records, as well as microfilmed county records kept at the Library. The county does not have an acting public records commission.

## **Gibson**

### **Gibson County Archives: Emily Walker, Archivist**

731 South College, Trenton, TN 38382    phone: 731-855-7688

Holdings: Early Chancery and Circuit Court records in addition to some records from County Court.

Conditions: The Gibson County Archives is located in the former emergency management building. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Giles**

### **Giles County Archives: Clara Parker, Historian**

PO Box 678, Pulaski, TN 38478    phone: 931-363-8434

Holdings: Giles County records (loose and bound) 1810-1900.

Conditions: The Giles County Archives is located in two upper rooms of the courthouse. The facility is staffed by local volunteers. Although the space is inadequate for the volume of records and has temperature and humidity control issues, the staff provides good service for the historical records. The county has an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## ***Grainger***

### **Grainger County Archives: Mary Lynn Gilmore, Archivist**

890 Gilmore Lane, Bean Station, TN 37708    phone: 865-850-8549

Holdings: Grainger County bound volumes: various offices and dates; loose records: sessions court, various dates; Circuit Court, 1897-1930; Chancery Court, various dates; County Court, various dates (including some from 1776); Deeds, 1885; Wills, 1851-1977 (with gaps); Marriages, 1920-1940, 1946-1950, 1958-1959, 1982-1985.

Conditions: Grainger County records were salvaged from perilous conditions in March 2002 and moved to two rooms in the old high school. The county is presently working on processing the records and creating a solid inventory. The collection is presently closed until conservation and arrangement can be completed. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Greene***

### **T. Elmer Cox Historical and Genealogical Library: Don Miller, Director**

229 N. Main St., Greeneville, TN 37745    phone: 423-638-9866

Holdings: 375 linear feet of records including: County Court loose records (marriages and wills), pre-1900 bound Circuit Court volumes, and some municipal records. The date span runs approximately 1780-1973.

Conditions: The Greene County Archives is housed at the T. Elmer Cox Historical and Genealogical Library, part of the Greene County Public Library System and operating on the same hours for public access. The Library also houses photographs and manuscript collections. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Grundy***

### **Grundy County Register of Deeds: Gayle VanHooser, Register**

PO Box 35, Altamont, TN 37301    phone: 931-692-3621

Holdings: Very limited original records prior to 1990.

Conditions: The majority of Grundy County records were destroyed in a courthouse fire in 1990. Fortunately, copies of the bound records exist on microfilm in the courthouse and library. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## ***Hamblen***

### **Hamblen County Archives: Helen Danison, Archivist**

Room 102 Courthouse, 511 W. 2nd St., Morristown, TN 37814-1530    phone: 423-586-1961

Holdings: Hamblen County records 1870-1997.

Conditions: The Hamblen County Archives is staffed 50 hours per week by volunteers. The county provides funding for the space and utilities as well as a small amount for supplies. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Hamilton***

### **Hamilton County Records Center: Ray Wilson, Manager**

6233 Dayton Blvd., Chattanooga, TN 37343    phone: 423-209-8980

Holdings: Extensive bound and loose records from most major county offices, including an extensive, apparently complete run of case files from the Chancery and Circuit courts.

Conditions: The Hamilton County Records Center actually functions as a combined archives/records center. Although not actually set up as a research archives, the Records Center does hold all the original and microfilmed county records and does make them available during regular business hours for inspection. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Hancock***

### **Hancock County Archives: Scott Collins, Clerk & Master**

PO Box 277, Sneedville, TN 37869    phone: 423-733-4524

Holdings: Hancock County records 1850-present, consisting primarily of loose case files and Docket books from Chancery Court.

Conditions: The processed chancery court records are maintained in the Clerk & Master's office. The county does not have an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **Hardeman**

### **Hardeman County Register of Deeds: Lily Barnes, Register**

100 N. Main St., Courthouse, Bolivar, TN 38008    phone: 731-658-3476

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Hardeman County does not have records management or archives programs. County records are stored in the individual offices and in off-site storage facilities. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Hardin**

### **Hardin County Archives: Julie Gail Pickens, Register of Deeds**

1365 Pickwick St., Savannah, TN 38372    phone: 731-925-4936

Holdings: Undetermined volume of unprocessed Hardin County records ranging in date from the early 1800's to the present.

Conditions: The records were moved from storage in the courthouse to the archives (located in the public library) in spring 2003. Little has been done since that time to organize them, and the archives is not yet open for public research. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Hawkins**

### **Hawkins County Historical Society: Jack Goins, Genealogist**

PO Box 637, Rogersville, TN 37857    phone: 423-272-7297

Holdings: A great many of the surviving historical records of this county, one of Tennessee's earliest, are stored under poor conditions in a series of basement rooms in the old courthouse.

Conditions: There has been a recent effort in Hawkins County to salvage the neglected court records and to store them in a proper space. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Haywood**

### **Haywood County Historical Society: Reece Moses, Historian**

2428 Upper Zion Rd., Brownsville, TN 38012    phone: 731-772-4292

Holdings: Some court records have been processed and filmed and are kept in the clerk's office. Other, older records of the county are stored in a rather dilapidated warehouse off the square.

Conditions: Haywood County does not have a centralized archival facility for its old records, nor does it have an active public records commission.

## **Henderson**

### **Henderson County Mayor: Dennis R. McDaniel, County Mayor**

PO Box 528, Lexington, TN 38351    phone: 731-968-0122

Holdings: Generally unknown, although some of the loose marriages and wills were organized and filmed some years ago by a Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) couple.

Conditions: All surviving records still in the courthouse. The county does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Henry**

### **Henry County Archives: Stephanie Tayloe, Archivist**

55 Jones Bend Ext. Rd., Paris, TN 38242    phone: 731-232-8696

Holdings: Henry County records 1821-1950, including: loose County Court records, Land Deeds, Tax records, loose records from Chancery and Circuit courts.

Conditions: Historical records are kept in a one-room archive in an old school building some distance from the courthouse. It is staffed by volunteers and currently is open one day a week. The county has an active public records commission.

### **City of Paris Municipal Archives: Carl Holder, City Director**

PO Box 970, Paris, TN 38242    phone: 731-641-1455

Holdings: City tax rolls, city commission minutes, city court dockets all from the early 1900's. The collection contains a small number of records from local Paris businesses.

Conditions: The Paris Municipal Archives is housed in the Paris City Hall Building. The archives is open to the public Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

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## **Hickman**

### **Hickman County Historical Society: Steve Phillips, Secretary of Historical Society**

PO Box 64, Centerville, TN 37033    phone: 931-729-3279

Holdings: The county has most of its early bound records and a portion of the loose records--wills and marriages--from the County Clerk's office. There is a volume of indeterminate records gathered from courthouse storage space and removed to another site.

Conditions: Through the agency of the Hickman County Historical Society, some of the older records have been centralized, and the process is underway to establish a proper archive. The county does not presently have records management or archives programs. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Houston**

### **Houston County Historical Society: Nina Finley, Historian**

716 E. Main St., Erin, TN 37061    phone: 931-289-3656

Holdings: Records are stored in various locations in the courthouse. A comprehensive inventory of the holdings has not been done.

Conditions: The Houston County Historical Society along with the Houston County Public Library have been trying to get an active records program started in the county. Lack of storage space and funding from the county have hindered the efforts. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Humphreys**

### **Humphreys County Archives: Milton Heidt, Archivist**

122 Wilson Ridge Rd., Waverly, TN 37185    phone: 931-296-5313

Holdings: Humphreys County records 1863-1940, including loose Chancery and Circuit Court case files. Most early records of the county (pre-1836) destroyed by fire except for deed books. Later court records, after 1940, are still held in offices.

Conditions: Records were salvaged and stored by a private citizen at his residence. The county has since provided space for the archives in the public library. The county archivist is a volunteer and in need of support staff. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Jackson**

### **Jackson County Historical Society: Ronnie West, Historian**

224 West Hills Ln., Gainesboro, TN 38562    phone: 931-268-9278

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Members of the Jackson County Historical Society have recently begun to work on an inventory of the records located in the basement of the courthouse. The county has designated rooms on the upper level of the courthouse for the storage of these records. The county has a newly activated public records commission.

## **Jefferson**

### **Jefferson County Archives: Lura Hinchey, Archivist**

PO Box 1193, Dandridge, TN 37725    phone: 865-397-4904

Holdings: Jefferson County records 1792-present, including loose records of Chancery, Circuit, and County courts.

Conditions: The Jefferson County Archives is located in the county courthouse. Volunteers staff the archives 9:00-4:00 Monday through Friday. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Johnson**

### **Johnson County Archives: Thomas Gentry, Historian**

508 Hospital Rd., Mountain City, TN 37683    phone: 423-727-8374

Holdings: Johnson County records 1836 to 2003, including: loose Circuit, County, and Criminal Court records; marriage bonds (dating back to 1836). An additional 300 cubic feet of unprocessed county records (loose and bound) are also included. The content of these records is unknown.

Conditions: Presently (Dec. 2003), the records are stored in various locations in the court house and off site locations. The County Commission has named the former county jail as the future home of the Johnson County Archives. Records are scheduled to be moved into the facility after the New Year (2004).



# Local Government Records

## ***Knox***

### **Knox County Archives: Doris Martinson, Archivist**

500 W. Church Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902    phone: 865-215-8804

Holdings: Knox County records 1792-present.

Conditions: The Knox County Archives is an integrated part of county government and one of the largest and best organized county archives in Tennessee. There is a separate Records Center which handles the management and disposal of the county's temporary records. The archives is staffed with five paid employees; open 40 hours per week. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Lake***

### **Lake County Register: Claudia Adcock, Register**

PO Box 9, Tiptonville, TN 38079    phone: 731-253-7462

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Records are scattered in various inadequate spaces in the courthouse. There is little interest in the county for an archives or even an organized storage area for the records. The county does not have a public records commission.

## ***Lauderdale***

### **Lauderdale County Archives: Bettie Davis, Historian/ Certified Archives Manager**

957 Doctor Hall Rd., Halls, TN 38040    phone: 731-836-7073

Holdings: Although records have been stored in rather inaccessible vaults, there appear to be a fairly complete run of early Circuit and Chancery court case files, in addition to the standard bound records.

Conditions: The records are stored in the courthouse basement. Storage conditions are not conducive to public inspection. Local volunteers are actively working to get the records processed and into safer housing conditions. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Lawrence***

### **Lawrence County Archives: Kathy Niedergeses, Archivist**

218 N. Military Ave. Suite B-1, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464    phone: 931-766-1576

Holdings: Lawrence county records 1818-2000, including: loose Chancery Court records, 1840-1950; loose marriage records, 1818-2000, loose County Court records, 1818-1950, and Register of Deed's books, 1820-1986. The archives also houses photographs, oral histories, maps, and family file folders.

Conditions: This well-established county archives employs two staff members (paid for by the county). The archives is located in the basement of the old post office. Storage space is adequate but temperature and humidity are both problematic. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Lewis***

### **Lewis County Historian: Marjorie Graves, Historian**

311 West Main St., Hohenwald, TN 38462    phone: 931-796-3505

Holdings: Lewis County bound records (marriages, minute books, etc.) 1850-1899.

Conditions: There is no formal county archives, although the old jail in the courthouse has been subdivided into record storage space for the individual offices. The storage conditions for the county's records are not conducive to long-term preservation or public access. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Lincoln***

### **Lincoln County Archives: Peggy Bevels, Archivist**

1000-B Washington St. West, Fayetteville, TN 37334    phone: 931-732-4214

Holdings: Extensive and mostly complete holdings of both bound and loose records of Lincoln County, well organized and arranged.

Conditions: Lincoln County has one of the model medium-sized county archives in the state, located in converted National Guard armory some distance from the courthouse. Good records management program and regular research hours maintained at the archives. The county has an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **Loudon**

### **Loudon County Mayor: George Miller, County Mayor**

100 River Road, #106, Loudon, TN 37774    phone: 865-458-4664

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Loudon County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Macon**

### **Macon County Archives: Randy East, Archivist**

Courthouse, Public Square, Lafayette, TN 37083    phone: 615-666-6030

Holdings: Macon County records 1844-2002; primarily bound books with some processed loose case files.

Conditions: The Macon County Archives has recently moved to a larger facility and is staffed by a part-time employee. The collection totals approximately 50 boxes of varied records from the offices. The bulk of the county's records are held in the offices of origin. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Madison**

### **Madison County Archives: , Archivist**

224 Lexington Ave., Jackson, TN 38301    phone: 731-423-2723

Holdings: Madison County records 1846-2002, including: loose Chancery, Circuit, and County Court records and most of the older bound records. The facility also serves as a county records center.

Conditions: The Archives/Records Center is the official repository for the county's records. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Marion**

### **Marion County Mayor: Howell Moss, County Mayor**

PO Box 789, Jasper, TN 37347    phone: 423-942-2552

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Marion County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Marshall**

### **Marshall County Mayor: Terry Wallace, County Mayor**

1108 Courthouse Annex, Lewisburg, TN 37091    phone: 931-359-1279

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Marshall County does not have a formal records management or archives program, although some historical records are stored in the office of origin and in various storage locations, including a former bank vault in a converted county office building. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Maury**

### **Maury County Archives: Bob Duncan, Director of Archives**

201 East 6th St., Columbia, TN 38401    phone: 931-375-1500

Holdings: Chancery loose records 1807-1900, marriages 1807-1950, bound volumes 1807-1950, Circuit/Criminal records 1807-1900.

Conditions: A true success story, the Maury County Archives is an integral part of county government. The county provides strong budgetary and administrative support for the archives. There is also a great deal of community involvement and support (80+ volunteers); full business hours and reference service. The county has an active public records commission.

## **McMinn**

### **McMinn County Historical Society: Joe Guy, Historian**

6 East Madison Avenue, Athens, TN 37303    phone: 423-745-7634

Holdings: County records, bound and loose, are fairly complete from 1836 to present, though no full inventory has been done and the exact extent of the loose records is unknown.

Conditions: The McMinn County Historical Society operates a very small reference and storage room in the basement of the courthouse, but the vast majority of the county's older records are still kept by the offices or stored in various locations throughout the courthouse. The county has an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **McNairy**

### **McNairy County Archives: Nancy Kennedy, Archivist**

PO Box 764, Selmer, TN 38375    phone: 901-645-6432

Holdings: McNairy County records c.1850-1980, including loose Chancery, Circuit, and General Sessions records; Chancery docket and execution books; Circuit Court minute books and will books; loose wills and marriages.

Conditions: The McNairy County Archives was established in 1995 and occupies two small rooms outside the Elections office in the courthouse. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Meigs**

### **Meigs County Historical Society: Gloria Schouggins, President of Historical Society**

PO Box 43, Decatur, TN 37322    phone: 423-334-9322

Holdings: Somewhat sketchy holdings of older records; Meigs appears to have lost, in particular, the bulk of its historical loose court records. Storage in a courthouse attic space seem to be mostly recent, non-permanent office records. Some bound record books held by the historical society.

Conditions: Meigs County is considering some off-site storage of historical records in conjunction with a museum and under the supervision of the historical society. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Monroe**

### **Monroe County Archives: Lynn McConkey, Genealogist**

105 College St., Madisonville, TN 37354    phone: 615-442-3981

Holdings: Monroe County records 1819-1940s, primarily bound record books from the 1840s forward. There are few surviving loose court records prior to 1840.

Conditions: The Monroe County Archives occupies a couple small rooms in the courthouse basement and is open most weekday mornings and by appointment. Some of the records were lost in a fire. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Montgomery**

### **Montgomery County Archives: Jill Hastings-Johnson, Archivist**

PO Box 585, Clarksville, TN 37041    phone: 931-553-5159

Holdings: Deed books, 1789--; Marriage books, 1838--; County Court Minutes, 1805--; probate records, 1795/96--; inventory & settlement books, 1860's; tax records, various dates; loose marriage records, 1860--; miscellaneous county records.

Conditions: As a result of a massive tornado in 1999, the Archives moved to five different temporary locations within a few years. The present site is a 12,000 square foot facility in a former Montgomery Ward building that is shared with other county offices. The Archives keeps full business hours with an excellent research collection and reference service. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Moore**

### **Moore County Mayor: Peggy Gattis, County Mayor**

PO Box 206, Lynchburg, TN 37352    phone: 931-759-7076

Holdings: Most bound records from the county's inception in 1870 forward, kept in office vaults. There seem to be few remaining loose court records.

Conditions: Moore County has taken steps recently to establish its records management and archives programs. Officials have designated part of a county-owned building off the square for the Moore County Archives. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Morgan**

### **Morgan County Mayor: Tommy Kilby, County Mayor**

PO Box 387, Wartburg, TN 37887    phone: 423-346-6288

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Morgan County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **Obion**

### **Obion County Historical Society: Margaret Payne, Historian**

4605 Bethlehem Rd., Union City, TN 38261    phone: 731-885-8606

Holdings: Processed Chancery Court records, loose marriages and wills, 1836-1920.

Conditions: Processed Chancery and Circuit Court records are stored in converted jail facility on second floor of the courthouse. Accessibility and hours are undetermined. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Overton**

### **Overton County Archives: Reda Bilbrey, Archivist**

317 University St. Suite 1, Livingston, TN 38570    phone: 931-823-5259

Holdings: Overton County records 1806-1993, including: loose Chancery and Circuit Court records, early deed books, and extensive tax records.

Conditions: The Overton County Archives is located in a series of basement rooms in an old county health building. Volunteers are currently working one day a week to organize and prepare loose records for filming. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Perry**

### **Perry County Mayor: Benny R. Howard, County Mayor**

PO Box 16, Linden, TN 37096    phone: 931-589-2216

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Perry County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Pickett**

### **Pickett County Public Records Commission: Hazel Rauch, Archivist**

P.O. Box 280, Byrdstown, TN 38549    phone: 931-864-7152

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Pickett County is expanding the public library and has included a space for the archives in the design. At present, the records are stored in the offices of origin and in the basement of the courthouse. Records storage is not conducive to preservation or public inspection. The county has a newly formed public records commission.

## **Polk**

### **Polk County /Benton Historical Society: Marion Presswood, Historian**

PO Box 636, Benton, TN 37307    phone: 423-338-5961

Holdings: Microfilmed early county records as well as some school and county tax records kept by historical society. Many historical records have been lost.

Conditions: Those older county records maintained by the historical society are kept in a house that serves as an archives/museum across from the courthouse. It lacks good heating and air conditioning. Other records are still kept in county offices. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Putnam**

### **Putnam County Mayor: Kim Blaylock, County Mayor**

300 E. Spring St., Room 8, Cookeville, TN 38501    phone: 931-526-2161

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Putnam County does not have records management or archives programs. Several attempts by TSLA staff to assist the county have gone unanswered. The condition of the surviving records is fairly good, although the county seems to have destroyed most of its early loose court records. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Rhea**

### **Rhea County Mayor: Billy R. Patten, County Mayor**

375 Church St., Ste. 215, Dayton, TN 37321    phone: 423-775-7801

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Rhea County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **Roane**

**Roane County Archives: Robert Bailey, Certified Archives Manager/ Historian**

PO Box 738, Kingston, TN 37763    phone: 865-376-9211

Holdings: Roane County records 1801-1973, including: loose Chancery Court records 1824-1939; loose County Court records 1801-1959; loose Circuit Court records 1810-1959; loose marriage records 1801-1973; and loose estate records 1801-1869.

Conditions: The Roane County Archives offers a well-run, full-service archives with regular business hours. There are still some important early records kept at a records center in the newer county administrative building, not under archival control. Roane County practices good records management. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Robertson**

**Robertson County Archives: Yolanda Reid, Archivist**

504 S. Willow St., Springfield, TN 37172    phone: 615-382-6928

Holdings: Robertson County records 1796-1996, including: loose and bound County, Chancery, Circuit, and General Sessions Courts records; estate settlement loose records; will and tax books; docket and minute books.

Conditions: Established in 1982, the Robertson County Archives is one of the oldest and most developed county records facilities in the state. The Archives is the official repository for the county's records. It is located in the renovated county jail building. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Rutherford**

**Rutherford County Archives: Lisa Pruitt, Director of Archives**

301 Courthouse, Murfreesboro, TN 37130    phone: 615-867-4609

Holdings: Approximately 1000 cubic feet of Rutherford County records ranging in date from 1803 to 1994. Records include: loose Chancery and Circuit court records; Trustee books and tax records; Circuit and Civil courts Execution, Rule and Docket books; Miscellaneous books.

Conditions: At present, the Rutherford County Archives is located in the Rutherford County courthouse. The Archives is managed by the Middle Tennessee State University Department of History. Graduate students from the department staff the facility. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Scott**

**Scott County Historical Society: Irene Baker, Historian**

PO Box 7, Huntsville, TN 37756    phone: 423-663-2317

Holdings: Scott County records 1848-1992, including: loose and bound records from Chancery, Circuit, County, and General Sessions courts; records from the Register of Deeds and Trustee's offices

Conditions: Scott County's historical records are maintained and managed by members of the historical society in a separate building across from the courthouse. Regular hours and good public service are provided. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Sequatchie**

**Sequatchie County Mayor: Connie Easterly, County Mayor**

PO Box 595, Dunlap, TN 37327    phone: 423-949-3479

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Sequatchie County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Sevier**

**Preservation of Records Department: Brad Cannon, Archivist**

125 Court Ave., Ste. 201E, Sevierville, TN 37862    phone: 865-774-3627

Holdings: Sevier County records mid-1800's to 2000. Many early records, particularly case files of the early courts, are missing; records after the Civil War are generally intact. The Preservation of Records Department is both an archives and a records center.

Conditions: The records were moved from the bell tower of the county courthouse (where they had been stored for years) to the present facility, across from the courthouse, in 2002. The archives is staffed with two paid county employees, including the full-time archivist. The county has an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## ***Shelby***

### **Shelby County Archives: John Dougan, Archivist**

150 Washington, Memphis, TN 38103    phone: 901-545-4351

Holdings: Memphis City Council Records 1850-1989; Mayor's Papers 1976-2002; County Commission Records 1820-1865; County Commission Minutes 1820-1995; Death Certificates 1848-1951; Marriage Records 1820-2002; Probate Files 1820-1900; Probate Minutes 1820-1900; Will Books 1820-2001; Naturalization Records 1856-1906; Deed Records 1820-2002; Subdivision Plats 1820-2002; Aerial Photos 1937-1990; Military Discharges 1928-2002; Tax Assessment Books 1868-1992; Property Assessment Cards 1939-1976; Building Permits 1964-1999; Circuit Court Minutes 1828-1988; Circuit Court Cases 1851-1964; Chancery Court Minutes 1849-1998; Chancery Court Cases 1849-1975; Criminal Court Minutes 1848-1985; Criminal Court Cases 1911-1971; Prison Registers 1913-1990. The Archives is also responsible for county records management, storage, and disposal.

Conditions: The Shelby County Archives is located in the former Shelby County Jail and Criminal Courts building. Originally built in 1924, the building underwent extensive renovation and reopened to the public in May 2000. The county has an active public records commission.

### **City of Germantown Municipal Archives: Judy Simerson, City Clerk**

1930 S. Germantown Rd., Germantown, TN 38138    phone: 901-757-7260

Holdings: We have no information on the holdings.

Conditions: We have no information on the condition of the records.

## ***Smith***

### **Smith County Archives: Sue Maggart-Petty, Historian**

PO Box 112, Carthage, TN 37030    phone: 615-735-0200

Holdings: Smith County records including: loose wills, marriages, Quarterly Court Minutes, Chancery Court loose records and record books, Circuit Court loose records and record books. Date of records spans from 1799 to present.

Conditions: Marriage records prior to 1860 were "lost." The Smith County Archives is located in the basement of the county library. Most of the funding for the archives has come from the fundraising efforts of the Smith County Historical Society. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## ***Stewart***

### **Stewart County Archives: Nelda Saunders, Archivist**

660 Old Highway 79, Dover, TN 37058    phone: 931-232-7062

Holdings: Miscellaneous early volumes from Circuit, Chancery, and County clerks as well as tax and property records. Few surviving loose court case files from the nineteenth century.

Conditions: The newly established Stewart County Archives occupies two rooms in a converted county school building near the library. Volunteers are in the early stages of outfitting the rooms and organizing and processing the records. Not yet open to public. The county has an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## ***Sullivan***

### **Sullivan County Archives: Shelia Steele Hunt, Archivist**

PO Box 3826, Kingsport, TN 37664    phone: 423-279-0422

Holdings: Despite being one of Tennessee's earliest counties, Sullivan has lost most of its 18th and early 19th century court records. Records are kept by office in series of storage rooms in basement of Blountville courthouse as well as in off-site storage areas. A comprehensive survey of the records has not been done.

Conditions: The Sullivan County Archives is located next door to the courthouse in the Snow House. The Archives is in the preliminary stages of development. Records have not yet been moved into the facility. The county has hired a part-time archivist. The county has an active public records commission.

### **Archives of the City of Kingsport: Brian Wilson, City Archivist**

400 Broad St., Kingsport, TN 37660    phone: 423-224-2559

Holdings: 650 Linear feet of records (local/regional, municipal, political, religious, and business history) spanning 1917-present.

Conditions: The records are stored in a temperature and humidity controlled environment. The Archives is a formal office within the municipal government, situated in the ground floor of the Kingsport Library and open during regular business hours.

## ***Sumner***

### **Sumner County Archives: Ann Ross, Director**

155 East Main St., Gallatin, TN 37066    phone: 615-452-0037

Holdings: Sumner County records 1787-1997, including: loose Court records, loose Chancery records, Chancery Court, Circuit Court and County Court Minute Books, Chattel Mortgages, and tax records.

Conditions: One of the state's earliest county record facilities, the Sumner County Archives is the official repository for the county's records and offers excellent research and reference services. The archives was established in 1987. It is open to the public 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The county has an active public records commission.

## ***Tipton***

### **Tipton County Mayor: Jeff Huffman, County Mayor**

PO Box 686, Covington, TN 38019    phone: 901-476-0200

Holdings: Tipton has a considerable volume of processed loose court records arranged and stored in rooms in the courthouse basement. Bound record books are, for the most part, kept in the offices of origin.

Conditions: Tipton County does not have a developed records management or archives programs, although considerable work has been done to organize and film loose court records. The storage areas are inadequate in size, and conditions are not conducive to either preservation or public inspection. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## ***Trousdale***

### **Trousdale County Mayor: Jerry Clift, County Mayor**

200 East Main St., Room 6, Hartsville, TN 37074    phone: 615-374-2461

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Trousdale County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## ***Unicoi***

### **Unicoi County Mayor: Larry Rose, County Mayor**

PO Box 169, Erwin, TN 37650    phone: 423-743-9391

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Unicoi County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

# Local Government Records

## **Union**

**Union County Mayor: Larry Lay, County Mayor**

901 Main Street, Ste. 124, Maynardville, TN 37807    phone: 865-992-3061

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Union County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Van Buren**

**Van Buren County Archives: Agnes Jones, Archivist**

HC 69, Box 688, Spencer, TN 38585    phone: 931-946-7486

Holdings: Van Buren County records 1840-1998, including: loose Trustee, Circuit Court, County Court, and Chancery Court records; Register of Deeds' records; Sheriff Department Records.

Conditions: The Van Buren County Archives is located in two rooms in the county office building (a refurbished county school building). The archives is staffed by local volunteers. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Warren**

**Warren County Mayor: Kenneth Rogers, County Mayor**

201 Locust St., Suite 1, McMinnville, TN 37110    phone: 931-473-2505

Holdings: Unknown.

Conditions: Warren County does not have records management or archives programs. The condition of the records is unknown. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Washington**

**Washington County Archives Committee: Mildred Koszuch, Historian**

546 Matson Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659    phone:

Holdings: As Tennessee's earliest county, Washington has an enormous volume of bound and loose records, some of which are still stored in the offices of origin. Some of the early 19th century court case files are missing, and a large volume of the surviving ones are housed at the Archives of Appalachia at ETSU, but most of the rest remain in the old courthouse.

Conditions: Although Washington County does not yet have an established archives, there is a concerted effort towards that goal as soon as court offices are moved out of the old courthouse and a suitable space becomes available. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Wayne**

**Wayne County Archives: June Scott, Archivist**

Rm. 305 Courthouse, Waynesboro, TN 38485    phone: 931-722-5011

Holdings: Older County, Circuit, and Chancery court records.

Conditions: Wayne County's earliest loose and bound records are kept in a small archives facility in the courthouse, manned by volunteers and providing some measure of public access and reference service for them. The county does not have an active public records commission.

## **Weakley**

**Weakley County Mayor: Ron Gifford, County Mayor**

116 W. Main St., Room 106, Dresden, TN 38225    phone: 731-364-5413

Holdings: Generally unknown, though there are a sizeable volume of unprocessed loose court records stored under poor conditions in basement vaults in the courthouse.

Conditions: Weakley County does not have records management or archives programs. Some of the county's older records are held in the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The county does not have an active public records commission.



# Local Government Records

## **White**

### **White County Archives: Geraldine Pollard, Archivist**

3rd Floor, Courthouse, Sparta, TN 38583    phone: 931-837-4066

Holdings: White County records 1806 to present, including a large volume of Circuit and Chancery court case files dating from the early 19th century.

Conditions: The White County Archives was recently established on the second floor of the county courthouse. A full-time Archivist was hired in December, 2002. The archivist and local volunteers are sorting through the records and preparing them for public access. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Williamson**

### **Williamson County Archives: Louise Lynch, Archivist**

PO Box 1006, Franklin, TN 37065    phone: 615-790-5462

Holdings: Williamson County records 1800-1988, including: loose Chancery Court, Circuit Court, and County Court records; loose marriage bonds and licenses; bound volumes from Register of Deeds, Chancery Court, Circuit Court, and County Court. Records quite complete from the county's inception.

Conditions: The Williamson County Archives is housed in the basement of the old county post office and open to the public during regular business hours. Excellent research collection and reference service. The county has an active public records commission.

## **Wilson**

### **Wilson County Archives: Linda Granstaff, Archivist**

111 South College St., Lebanon, TN 37087    phone: 615-443-1993

Holdings: Wilson County records 1799-1986, including: loose County Court and Chancery Court records; loose marriage records and wills; family research books; video histories of local people; bound county record books from various offices. Also, family manuscripts and photographs.

Conditions: The Wilson County Archives is a fully integrated county office, with regular hours and excellent reference service. The county has an active public records commission and carries out an exemplary records management program. The county has an active public records commission.